

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SCCT-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /098 W

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O 152300Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9166

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3738

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, PFOR, PLO

SUBJ: PLO REQUESTS TO UN SECRETARIAT

REF: USUN 3535

1. PER REFTTEL, USYG BUFFUM HAS INFORMED US THAT PLO OBSERVER MISSION HAS REQUESTED SEAT IN GA AUDITORIUM, NAME TAG, RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL DEBATES, ETC. BUFFUM SAID HE INDICATED TO PLO OBSERVER MISSION THAT MATTER WOULD BE TAKEN UNDER CONSIDERATION. HE TOLD US NOW THAT HIS INCLINATION IS TO BE GENEROUS WITH PLO REQUEST AS FAR AS MIDDLE EAST DEBATES ARE CONCERNED BUT TO TRY TO RESTRICT PLO REQUESTS TO THOSE DEBATES ONLY (COMMENT: NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT GA RESOLUTION 3237, GRANTING PLO OBSERVER STATUS, EXPLICITLY AUTHORIZES PLO PARTICIPATION ACROSS THE BOARD " IN THE WORK OF THE GA").

2. IN SEPARATE BUT RELATED DEVELOPMENT, WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL MISSIONS THAT PLO HAS ALSO REQUESTED THAT ITS HEAD OF DELEGATION THIS YEAR, FARROUK KADDOUMI, PLO "FOREIGN MINISTER", BE INSCRIBED TO SPEAK IN THE GENERAL DEBATE. OUR VIEW IS THAT WHILE PARTICIPATION BY ANY OBSERVER IN THE GENERAL DEBATE WOULD BE UNPRECEDENTED, THERE IS NOTHING IN

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RULES TO PREVENT IT; MOREOVER, IT CAN

BE ARGUED THAT PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL DEBATE IS SQUARELY
WITHIN THE TERMS OF RESOLUTION 3237, PARAGRAPH 1. WE FEEL
THE LEGAL COUNSELOR TO THE SYG WOULD HOLD THE SAME VIEW
SHOULD HE BE ASKED BY THE SECRETARIAT. A CASE AGAINST KADDOUMI'S
SPEAKING IN THE GENERAL DEBATE WOULD THUS HAVE TO BE BASED
ON POLITICAL AND NOT LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS. WE ARE IN TOUCH
WITH BUFFUM ON THIS AND WILL INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS.
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